

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00834 061818Z

44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /026 W

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O R 061522Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0734

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 0834

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

FOR SECRETARY ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S VISITS AFTER OASGA

REFS: (A) BRIDGETOWN 0835; (B) STATE 104672; (C) BRIDGETOWN 0799

1. YESTERDAY (MAY 5) IN A LONG TALK ATTENDED BY POLOFF, WITH ATTORNEY LAWSON BAYLEY, POLITICAL COLUMNIST OF THE BARBADOS ADVOCATE-NEWS, AND STALWART OF THE OPPOSITION BARBADOS LABOR PARTY, HE SUGGESTED, BASED ON HIS INTELLIGENCE, THAT IF THE RULING DEMOCRATIC LABOR PARTY WINS THE MAY 12 BY-ELECTION IN BRIDGETOWN, AND IT NOW APPEARS CERTAIN, A GENERAL ELECTION WILL FOLLOW ON JUNE 6 OR THEREAFTER.

2. REFTEL (A) REPORTED INTERVIEW WHERE THE PRESUMABLY ILL PM RAPPED THE U.S. WITH DISTORTIONS AND INNUENDO AND MADE GRATUITOUS UNFLATTERING REFERENCES TO THE SECRETAY OF STATE. ASSUMING THIS IS THE START OF A
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GENERAL POLITICAL CAMPAIGN BASED ON ANTI-AMERICAN

OR STAND-UP-TO-AMERICA PLATFORM, WE CERTAINLY CAN'T AFFORD TO BE DRAWN INTO IT, BY COMMENT OR OTHERWISE.

3. THIS OBVIOUSLY SUGGESTS THAT THE PROPOSED VISIT TO BARBADOS NEEDS TO BE RECONSIDERED IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS. THE DUAL HAZARDS OF BEING ACCUSED OF MEDDLING IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF BARBADOS, AND THE UNCIVIL ATTITUDE OF AN ILL, DOMINEERING PRIME MINISTER, WOULD BE FACED BY THE SECRETARY.

4. WILL KEEP YOU POSTED ON ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. IN THE MEANTIME, WOULD WELCOME ANY INSTRUCTIONS. IN REGARD TO THE REFTEL INTERVIEW, WE PROPOSE TO SIT TIGHT AND SAY NOTHING.
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